

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 6-8, 24, 25, and 27-33 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 24, and 25 are the independent claims. Claims 29-33 are new. Claims 1, 6, 8, 24, and 25 are amended. Claim 9-23 and 26 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 4 and 5 were previously cancelled. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's acknowledgement of the Information Disclosure Statements filed on: November 30, 2004; February 6, 2008; April 3, 2008; August 11, 2008; September 4, 2008; October 30, 2008; and November 10, 2008.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 – Nonomura in view of Mori

Claims 1-3 and 6-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,574,419 to Nonomura et al. ("Nonomura") in view of U.S. Pat. Application Publ. No. 2002/0110369 to Mori et al. ("Mori"). In regards to cancelled claims 9-23 and 26, this rejection is rendered moot. In regards to the rest of the claims, Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the reasons detailed below.

Mori discloses a reproduction method that includes (i) decoding a video object ("VOB"), or alternatively, (ii) decoding an audio object ("AOB") and a corresponding picture video object ("P_VOB"). (Mori para. [0374].) Regarding (ii), "the AOB and the P_VOB are recorded in different areas of the optical disk as different system streams." (Id. at para. [0377].) The AOB includes output timing information, or presentation time stamps ("PTS"). (Id. at para. [0379]; See also para. [0224]; FIG. 24.) In contrast,

the P_VOB does not include the output timing information, or PTS. Instead, the time stamps of the P_VOB reside in a DLIST, which is "in another area of the optical disk." (Id. at para. [0379]; FIG. 69; See Illustration A below.) This is underscored by the fact that the only information contained in the P_VOB includes: management information (P_NV_PCK 1003), a plurality of video packs (V_PCK#1, 2, 3, and 4 1004), and a plurality of subpicture packs (SP_PCK#1, 2, 3, and 4 1004), none of which include a time stamp PTS. (Id. at para. [0208]; FIG. 31.) In short, the time stamps PTS corresponding with the P_VOB do not reside at the P_VOB itself.

FIG. 69

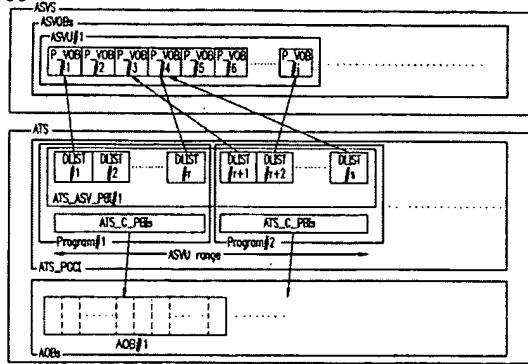


FIG. 31

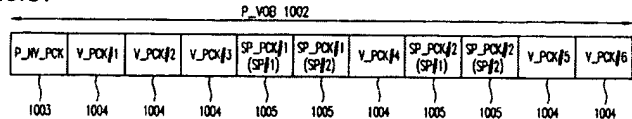


Illustration A. Figures 69 and 31 of Mori

Claim 1 requires, *inter alia*, "outputting the decoded still picture data based on the respective still picture STC and presentation time stamps (PTSs) in the still picture data." At least this feature is not disclosed or suggested by Nonomura, Mori, and/or a combination of the two (assuming they can be properly combined, which Applicants do not admit).

The Examiner asserts that Mori teaches the abovementioned features of claim 1. Applicants respectfully disagree. Mori discloses outputting the decoded P_VOB based on an STC and presentation time stamps (PTS) **that are not in the P_VOB**, but in a separate DLIST. In contrast, claim 1 requires, "outputting the decoded **still picture data** based on the respective still picture STC and presentation time stamps

(PTSs) **in the still picture data.**” For at least this reason, Mori does not teach and/or suggest the abovementioned feature of claim 1.

Furthermore, Nonomura does not disclose or suggest the above discussed deficiency of Mori. The Examiner concedes that Nonomura does not teach and/or suggest the abovementioned “outputting” step. (See May 21, 2009 Office Action p. 2.) Accordingly, Nonomura in view of Mori fails to render claim 1 obvious.

Applicants further submit that dependent claims 2-3 and 6-8 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 1. Claims 24 and 25 are separate independent claims and should be interpreted solely based on the limitations set forth therein. However, independent claim 24 (and its dependent claim 27) and independent claim 25 (and its dependent claim 28) are allowable for at least reasons somewhat similar to those set forth above with regard to claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully requests that this art grounds of rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103 be withdrawn.

New Claims

Applicants include in the present amendment new dependent claims 29-33. Claims 29-33 do not introduce any new matter. Applicants further submit that dependent claims 29-33 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 25.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks and amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the rejections has been addressed and overcome, placing the present application in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

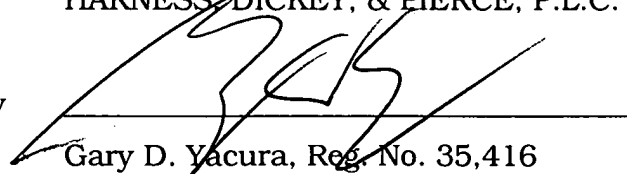
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Gary D. Yacura at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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